

Opposition backs Rabin on kidnapping

SARAH HONIG
and EVELYN GORDON

IN A rare move, all the opposition parties decided yesterday to close ranks behind the government as it attempts to tackle the kidnapping of Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann.

"At this juncture, there is no coalition or opposition. Wachsmann is the soldier of all of us, regardless of our politics, and despite all our differences, we must all work to make sure he returns home safe and sound," said Benjamin Netanyahu of the Likud.

The opposition, Netanyahu went on, "supports [Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin in placing full responsibility on the fate of the kidnapped soldier on Yasser Arafat."

Netanyahu attended a special briefing by Rabin, which was also attended by Labor's Ori Orr, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. When the session was over, representatives of the other opposition parties were invited in.

"Right now Rabin is issuing Arafat an unequivocal message," said MK Yigal Bibi, of the National Religious Party's MK Yigal Bibi. "We support this move and if this stance on Rabin's part continues, he will continue to enjoy our backing."

The opposition parties all promised Rabin not to raise motions in the Knesset plenum which would necessitate his presence, so that he would be able to devote maximum time to the crisis.

Coalition whip Eli Dayan (Labor) said that the fate of the agreement with the Palestinians rests on the fate of Wachsmann.

"The PLO must wage a war of extermination against Hamas," he said. "Otherwise, Arafat's government will be supplanted by a government of religious fanatics, and that will be the end of the peace process with the Palestinians."



Labor Knesset faction head Eli Dayan (center) chats with Moledet's Rehavam Ze'evi outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday, as Yigal Bibi (NRP) looks on.

with the Palestinians."

MK Taleb a-Sanaa (Democratic Arab Party) said he has personally asked Hamas leaders to help obtain Wachsmann's release, since, if he is hurt, the Palestinians' political struggle will be harmed. Furthermore, it

would be contrary to the principles of Islam, he said.

A-Sanaa said he is also considering asking jailed Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin for help.

However, he said, to make Yasser Arafat responsible for the event is to

play into the hands of the enemies of the peace process.

Hadash also denounced the kidnapping, saying it was meant to torpedo the peace process.

Although numerous motions for the agenda were submitted to the

Knesset on the subject of the kidnapping, Speaker Shevah Weiss decided that none should actually be discussed yesterday, to avoid interfering with the government's efforts to release Wachsmann. All the motions' sponsors agreed to this.

NEWSLINE

with YIGAL CARMON

Carmon was adviser on terrorism to former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir.

How should the government respond if Nahshon Wachsmann is not returned home safely?

The government has led us into a no-win situation. We are damned if we do something and we are damned if we do not.

This demonstrates the bankruptcy of [Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin's repeated slogan: "We'll continue the peace process as if there is no terror and fight terror as if there is no peace process." It is totally devoid of content in terms of realpolitik and security.

It could have been different had the PLO genuinely renounced violence and terrorism. But it did not.

There is no panacea in this situation. Over the past two years, the Israeli government has irresponsibly lost the balance between the need to provide security and the need to move forward in the peace process in the hope that peace will bring security.

Tragically, but not unexpectedly, when dealing with the PLO it doesn't. This is demonstrated in

[PLO Chairman] Arafat's behavior even today.

What is the alternative? Does this mean that we should return to Gaza?

Even if the abducted soldier is returned safely, which we all hope and pray, the government must ensure that Gaza stops being a base for the Islamic Jihad and for Hamas activity.

This can be done only by force. We need not necessarily stay there, but we surely must confront them and force them out.

The fact that we no longer occupy Gaza and rule it should free our hands with regard to defensive and preemptive measures.

What would you advise the government?

With regard to the future, I have expressed my views. As to the present critical situation, I recommend that no one indulge in public advice.

What we should all do now is rally behind the government's decisions and strengthen its hand in whatever it does to resolve the crisis, for the sake of Israel's security and Israeli lives.

Basheva Tsar

Palestinians question Reuters photographer

REUTERS photographer Hisham Shamas, who taped the first video of Nahshon Wachsmann's kidnapping, was interrogated by the Palestinian security services for several hours yesterday, before being released.

He told Army Radio that he filmed the first video in Gaza. The second one, he said, was not shot by him but "was taped outside Gaza."

"I saw the second video," he said. "But I don't know when it was taped."

He said his sensitive position "as a journalist and a Gazan" prevented him from going into further details.

Raine Marcus

Israeli Arab leaders call for soldier's return

DAVID RUDGE

ISRAELI Arab leaders yesterday denounced the kidnapping of Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann and called on Hamas to release him immediately.

Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the monitoring committee of the Israeli Arab leadership, also called on PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to crack down on those who were trying to disrupt the peace process.

Suleiman, head of Mash'had local council near Nazareth, further called on the government to show restraint in difficult and trying times and "give peace a chance."

"We call on Hamas to safeguard the young soldier and ensure his return, safe and well, to his parents," said Suleiman, reading from a statement issued by the Israeli Arab leadership.

"We believe that acts like this harm, and will harm, the peace process, as well as damage relations between Jews and Arabs in Israel."

"We reiterate our call to Hamas to stop these acts and allow the peace process to develop and enable normal relations between

Jews and Arabs."

Sheikh Abdullah Nimr Darweesh, spiritual head of the fundamentalist Islamic Movement in Israel, also appealed to Hamas to safeguard the kidnapped soldier and release him, even if their demands were not met.

"Events like this cause provocation," said Suleiman. "We remember what happened with Tolidano and what happened afterwards. Such incidents only cause disruptions in the relations between Jews and Arabs."

Jordan OKs link-up of electricity grid

News agencies

JORDAN has approved the immediate connection of an electricity network between Akaba and Eilat, the Jordanian delegation in Eilat told their Israeli counterparts yesterday.

The engineering teams of the Israel Electric Corporation and the Jordanian Electricity Authority have finished the details of the connection. The work will begin immediately after the purchase of equipment and will end within a few months.

"We had a very good atmosphere and the sides are interested in achieving cooperation in as many areas as possible," said Ayman Shihadeh, spokesman for the Israeli delegation.

Experts will begin today to survey the point several kilometers north of the Red Sea where the local grids of Eilat and Akaba will be linked, he said.

Discussions on alternative energy, both solar and wind, also took place on the third day of meetings, and an outline of a document on geological issues was also prepared.

Meanwhile, Jordan and the PLO have agreed on monetary, banking and trade accords which will ease Amman's fears about the position of its dinar currency in areas under Palestinian self-rule or still administered by Israel, officials said.

At the end of three days of talks on Tuesday night, Jordan secured a pledge from the Palestinian National Authority not to take any unilateral measures to undermine the dinar.

Jordan had expressed fears to the IMF and the World Bank that a politically motivated run on the dinar in the West Bank would harm its monetary stability and foreign reserves.

Bankers say between one-third and



Jordan's King Hussein chats with MK Abdul Wahab Darawshe at the Royal Palace in Amman yesterday. Darawshe is in Jordan leading an Israeli Arab delegation.

(Reuters)

one-half of the 1.1 billion dinars (\$1.5 billion) in circulation are in the West Bank.

"We have taken measures to safeguard the dinar," Minister of State

for Prime Ministry Affairs Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh said yesterday.

"They will be declared by the Central Bank and the Palestinian Monetary Authority."

Not the first, probably not the last

BACKGROUND

RAINE MARCUS

THIS IS not the first time a member of the security forces has been kidnapped in broad daylight.

Two years ago, border policeman Nissim Toledano was abducted by Izzadin Kassam terrorists on his way to his base in Lod, some two kilometers from his home.

In this case, too, the kidnappers demanded the release of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin in return for Toledano's life. Although they gave the government less than 24 hours to comply with their demands, it was found later that they had killed Toledano within hours of capturing him.

Two days after the abduction, Toledano's body was found near the Jerusalem-Jericho road.

The central area, where Nahshon Wachsmann was abducted on Sunday, has been particularly vulnerable, because of its extensive use of Arab labor from the territories.

"A special Border Police unit has been formed, which operates 24 hours daily to patrol the area, especially along the Green Line. They also set up surveillance operations, road blocks, and use intelligence networks," said central dis-

trict police chief Cmdr. Shlomo Aharonishky.

Police also work in close cooperation with the IDF and the newly formed Shai district force, which covers the territories.

"Tens of thousands of vehicles pass through the central district daily, on their way to the territories and to all parts of the country, and we cannot stop every car," said Aharonishky.

Although police have always cracked down on illegal workers in the territories, the abduction has triggered round the clock searches for such laborers at building sites, markets, and farming areas.

Police are also examining the possibility that the terrorists received assistance from local residents, but Aharonishky said so far there was no indication to this effect.

"We still don't know for sure if Wachsmann was abducted from

Bnei Atarot junction," he said.

Seventeen soldiers have been kidnapped and murdered by terrorists in the past 21 years. Some of the most recent:

● In May 1989, Ilan Sa'adon went missing while hitchhiking near the Gaza Strip. His body was never recovered, but Hamas later claimed responsibility for kidnapping and killing him.

● Less than a week later, the body of Avi Sasportas, who was kidnapped in February while hitchhiking in the South, was found in a shallow grave with a bullet in the head.

● In March 1993, Yehoshua Friedberg, 24, was kidnapped and shot to death on his way from his Jerusalem home to a base near Tel Aviv.

● This past April, the body of Shahr Simani was found in the West Bank a few hours after he was kidnapped. Hamas claimed responsibility for stabbing him to death.

● The most recent incident was the kidnap-murder of Arye Frankenthal this past July, as he hitched a ride from his base in the South.

Hamas man says he knew in advance of capital attack

DAVID MAKOVSKY

IN an interview with the Associated Press published yesterday, Abed Rabbo Abu Khussa, a leading Hamas figure in Gaza, admitted that he knew in advance about the attack in downtown Jerusalem early this week.

"I knew of the operation before it happened. I was present at the time they were training," said Abu Khussa, who said he did not fear arrest by the Palestinian Police.

To underscore this point, he gave an interview on the fringes of the Jebel's Palestinian Police base. However, PLO official Safwan Abu Zaidah denied that Abu Khussa knew anything, saying: "Those who do, don't talk."

He brushed off questions how reporters — such as those from Israel Television earlier in the week — could interview Abu Khussa, but the Palestinian police could not find him.

"I don't feel there is any danger that I will be arrested by the Palestinian police," Abu Khussa told AP, noting that he has met with members of the Palestinian Authority to discuss acceptable ground rules.

Abu Khussa recalled how and his accomplices dressed up as religious Jews to lure two hitchhiking soldiers into their cars in two separate incidents in 1989. He said the plan was to trade them for Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, but they were shot when they put up a fierce fight.

Abu Khussa denies knowing the whereabouts of Wachsmann.

According to Abu Zaidah, IDF helicopters shot at Abu Khussa from the air last week in Gaza, but missed.

Sources say Abu Khussa's freedom marks only one example that the Palestinians are not doing enough to adhere to their commitment on protecting Israeli security. Two Palestinians, who have been identified as the murderers of elevator technicians Gil Revah and Shalom Kapah in Ramle two months ago, remain free in Gaza and have not been extradited to Israel as called for in the Israel-PLO accord.

Vulture flies for Ron Arad

LIAT COLLINS

BATYA Arad, mother of missing IAF navigator Ron Arad, yesterday released a three-year-old vulture back into the wild, to commemorate the eighth anniversary of Ron's capture. The vulture, named Freedom, was the 12th to be released as part of a joint project by the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel and Yad Hanadiv to reintroduce the birds to the wild in the Mt. Carmel area.

Arad said that, as the vulture soared to freedom and flew back to its nest, she hopes to see her son return to his home.

The Arad family and families of other MIAs are scheduled to meet with US Secretary of State Warren Christopher today to ask him to bring up the subject of her missing son with the Syrians, Arad said.

Reports: Evicted Lebanese return

THE 26 residents of Huneh village inside the security zone, who were evicted from their homes on Tuesday morning and expelled from the area, were scheduled to return yesterday, according to Lebanese newspapers.

The papers said the deportees had been promised by the South Lebanese Army that they would be allowed to return to their village, in the eastern sector of the zone.

They told reporters in Lebanon that they had been expelled to put pressure on other residents to stop collaborating with Hizbullah activists, following several attacks against IDF and SLA targets in the area.

Rotary club starting service to help hitchhiking soldiers

DAVID RUDGE

CONCERN over abductions and attacks on soldiers has prompted the establishment of a special voluntary service in the bay-side suburbs of Haifa to help arrange safe hitchhikes to and from IDF bases.

The project is being launched by the Kishon Rotary Club this weekend, and if successful will likely be extended to other parts of the country.

A spokesman for the club said the idea was for soldiers in the area to call a special telephone number and give details of the places they needed to reach.

Another phone number is being made available for drivers to outline their travel plans.

Volunteers from the Rotary Club will sort through the messages and coordinate lifts for soldiers with motorists scheduled to travel to the same or nearby destinations.

Initially, it will involve those wishing to travel from their homes to their bases on Sunday, but will later be expanded to include round-trips.

"The aim is to try and insure that soldiers get pre-arranged lifts to and from their bases, and to do away with them having to hitchhike and run unnecessary risks," said the spokesman.

The phone message number for soldiers is (04) 303-231, while that for drivers is (04) 303-230.

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Turkish envoy: Israeli tourists welcome

EVELYN GORDON

TURKISH officials have not received any official complaints about the poor behavior of Israeli tourists in Turkey, Ambassador Unor Gukchia told the Knesset Economics Committee's tourism subcommittee yesterday.

"We consider Israelis to be true tourists, who keep coming back to Turkey," he said. "The Israeli tourist is like every other tourist. He is no different from the Germans, from the Europeans."

"There have been no stories in the Turkish press about complaints against Israelis. I learned about these behavior problems only in Israel."

Moshe Hananel, managing director of Galilee Tours - which

flew some 60,000 people to Turkey this year - also said he has not received the impression that Israelis are not welcome in Turkey. He receives calls every day from Turkish tourism companies who are trying to attract Israelis, he said.

While there are some Israeli problem cases - not just in Turkey, but in Jordan and other places as well - the number is negligible compared to the number of Israelis who travel to Turkey each year.

Danny Christ, head of the Israeli Association of Travel and Tourist Agents, put this number at 246,000 for the first eight months

of this year alone.

However, some of the other speakers at the session said the complaints were nevertheless real.

"To say the Turks like us is a mistake," said Nitzan Daniel, who has been in Turkey for the past eight months on behalf of an Israeli travel agency. "The Turks often can't bear the Israelis' behavior, because in Turkey they permit themselves to behave much worse than they would in Israeli hotels."

Subcommittee chairman Avi Yehzekel (Labor) suggested that the Tourism Ministry and the travel agents prepare a handbook on proper behavior for Israeli travel-

ers, in the hope that the minority would stop giving the entire nation a bad name.

Meanwhile, Economics Committee chairman Gideon Patt (Likud) scored Yehzekel for having invited the Turkish ambassador to the meeting.

"I checked with Knesset speaker [Shevah Weiss], and as far as he remembers, there has never been a similar occurrence in this house, of a Knesset committee inviting a foreign political personality to its meetings," Patt wrote Yehzekel.

"In the future, any unusual case such as this should be brought to me for my decision. If not, I will be compelled to dissolve the subcommittee."

Man gets 5½ years for shooting Arab youth

RAINE MARCUS

in September 1993.

He got out of the car and shot at Matzri, who was returning from school at the time. The bullet, fired from Shervit's personal Uzi submachine gun, penetrated Matzri's stomach and emerged from his back. The youth was rushed to the hospital where he was operated on for severe liver and spleen injuries.

Shervit was also charged with

hurling stones at an Arab vehicle in the area, smashing the windshield. He was acquitted on other counts of stone-throwing at vehicles bearing license plates from the territories.

The defendant pleaded not guilty, and said his deeds stemmed from the Arab-Israeli conflict and were justified.

Judge Kaplan described the offenses as "pure thuggery for the sake of it, accompanied by despicable acts of violence."

Deri's lawyer attacks Nehamkin's testimony

ARYEH Deri's lawyer, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, attacked the prosecution yesterday, saying its intention in calling former agriculture minister Aryeh Nehamkin as a witness had been "to smear Deri through the words of a man whose memory misled him."

He said Nehamkin told stories about Deri that were completely unfounded.

Throughout yesterday's session of Deri's ongoing trial for fraud, bribery and abuse of the public trust, Avi-Yitzhak sought to prove that the Moshav Binyamin Association and other purchasers of land near Nebi Samwil had acted in good faith, and that there was justification in giving them other

land in exchange for the land they bought which was not zoned for residential property.

He sought to undermine Nehamkin's version of events - that members of the Har Shimon non-profit group had been defrauded by an Arab who sold them land to which he held forged title before fleeing to Jordan.

"You continue to maintain your story despite all the documents I have presented and despite the testimony of others. Perhaps you're mistaken, and not they!" Avi-Yitzhak confronted Nehamkin.

"Perhaps, but that's how I remember it," Nehamkin replied. (tim)

Kahalanis remanded until end of trial

HERB KEINON

BROTHERS Eitan and Yehoyada Kahalanis, accused of the attempted murder of an Arab near Jerusalem in early September, were remanded in custody until the end of legal proceedings against them yesterday.

Jerusalem District Court Judge Michael Shidlovsky-Or said that in light of the prosecution's evidence, and the seriousness of the alleged crime, the two - suspected members of a Jewish terror cell - should not be released on bail.

According to the charge sheet, the Kahalanis stopped an Arab on the

way from Jerusalem to his village of Kaf Batir, and Eitan aimed an M-16 at his head, and pulled the trigger. But the gun did not fire because the firing pin had been taken out earlier by the General Security Services.

The Kahalanis, of Kiryat Arba, maintain their innocence.

In a related matter, Supreme Court Justice Michael Cheshin heard an appeal by the prosecution yesterday against Shidlovsky-Or's decision on Sunday to release another suspected member of the terror cell, Rabbi Ido Elba Kiryat Arba, on bail.

Ex-Kachnik given 11 months in jail

FORMER Kach activist Tiran Pollack was sentenced yesterday to 11 months in prison after pleading guilty on 18 separate counts of aggravated assault, disorderly conduct, illegal assembly, interfering with a civil servant, and threatening a civil servant.

Pollack, who originally was to be tried for disorderly conduct, had asked the court that he be tried on all the charges outstanding against him at the same time. He pleaded guilty on all counts.

The prosecution argued that Pollack's ideology did not justify his behavior, and noting that he had previously been given an 11-month suspended sentence, asked the court to send him to jail for that period.



Tiran Pollack

pollack told the court that while he had not changed his political beliefs, he intends to act differently in the future.

Jerusalem Magistrate's Court Judge Ezra Kamma said that since Pollack was charged with so many crimes, he could not give him another chance by extending his probation or sentencing him to community service.

Meanwhile, a group of settlers, including ex-Kach activist Noam Federman, who had set up a makeshift mobile home settlement near the reputed grave of Yishai, King David's father, in Hebron, was found not guilty by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court of failure to obey an IDF order to evacuate a closed military zone. (tim)

Secretary: Dinitz wanted wife to use agency tab

JEWISH Agency Chairman Simcha Dinitz's secretary, Marlene Moseck, yesterday testified that her boss insisted on his right to take his wife abroad with him at the agency's expense.

Moseck, continuing her testimony in Dinitz's trial on fraud charges in Jerusalem District Court, said under cross-examination by defense attorney Uri Wagman that the accounting department had objected to paying for Dinitz's wife to accompany him.

Dinitz, she said, maintained the view that, as chairman, the same limitations did not apply to him as to other agency officials.

Wagman attempted to establish that Dinitz paid for certain of his expenses abroad when it was unclear whether they were personal or covered by the agency. Moseck affirmed that the chairman had paid for breakfast on certain of these occasions, when in fact breakfasts are covered by the agency. (tim)

Heat's off! Forecast calls for cooler weather through weekend

DAVID RUDGE

THUNDERSTORMS swept across parts of the country again yesterday, accompanied by strong winds which caused some flooding in the south.

The storms caused the closure of some roads, mainly in the Arava region, but had little effect on the prolonged heat wave which has afflicted the country virtually since the beginning of September.

Meteorological experts, however, forecast that a break is in the offing, and cooler and more stable weather is likely to begin today and continue through the weekend.

According to the weather bureau, thunderstorms are still possible today, but are expected to be replaced by cloudy and cooler conditions. Conditions will eventually return to

the average for this time of year, according to the forecast.

The unseasonable conditions were blamed for a spate of fire in several places yesterday, including one blaze near Moshav Elyakim, on the eastern slopes of Mount Carmel, which destroyed several scores of dunnies of natural brushland before being brought under control.

Meanwhile, striking firemen in Upper Galilee are to meet today to decide on further measures to press for the payment of their September salaries.

The national union is threatening to close stations throughout the country in support of firemen in the north if the matter remains unresolved by this morning.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arab killed in Sunday's attack named martyr
Ziad Mgrabi, the eastern Jerusalem man killed during the Hamas terrorist attack in Jerusalem on Sunday, was buried near Al-Aksa Mosque yesterday as a martyr.

Hamas declared Mgrabi, a 32-year-old father of three, a *shahid* because his wife claimed he was killed by Border Police gunfire during the shootout on the mall of Nahalat Shiva.

The family did not allow an autopsy, which is against Islamic law, and therefore the claim that Mgrabi was killed by an Israeli bullet could not be verified.

Agency treasurer uses private PR firm

JEWISH Agency Treasurer Hanan Ben-Yehuda yesterday issued a press release yesterday with the logo of a private public relations firm, although the agency has its own spokesman.

The statement protested suggestions that the "Na'ale" program to bring youths from the CIS be cut for lack of funds.

Questioned on the subject, Ben-Yehuda expressed surprise that the firm had used its logo.

"I know Roni Rimon [whose firm sent the handout] from the days when he was spokesman of the Tel Aviv Municipality," Ben-Yehuda said. "He volunteered to help me set up some contacts, but I did not expect him to use his logo on such a handout."

Ben-Yehuda stressed that he had not paid for the services which he said were "those of a friend."

Rabin, Arafat, Hussein get Reagan award

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation announced that its 1994 Reagan Freedom Award will go to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, and King Hussein of Jordan. The awards will be presented to each of the men at separate ceremonies later this year, with the first ceremony in Los Angeles to honor Rabin.

21 pupils hurt as school buses collide

Twenty-one pupils aged 13 and 14 were injured yesterday when two private buses collided on the Rosh Ha'ayin-Petah Tikva road. Five ambulances evacuated the victims - most of them lightly injured - to Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva. (tim)

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the seven of spades, nine of hearts, king of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

Border moshavim facing egg crisis

Moshavim along the northern border yesterday threatened to turn out their security lights to protest the crisis prevailing in the egg sector.

Moshav representatives said excess supply reaches about 400 million eggs a year. The moshavim claim an NIS 15m. payment to finance the removal of 80 million excess eggs is two months overdue.

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Cedras quits, all coup officials now gone

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP) - Haiti's military-backed president has quit, completing the sweep of coup officials before the homecoming Saturday of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

A Haitian military aide said former army chief Raoul Cedras would go into exile by the end of yesterday, to either Panama or Argentina. A jetliner chartered by the US military waited on the tarmac of the international airport, perhaps to carry away Cedras.

US troops came to Haiti beginning Sept. 19 to help restore the elected president, who was ousted three years ago by a military junta led by Cedras.

The formal resignation of Emile Jonassaint, broadcast yesterday morning on local radio, followed the takeover Tuesday of the National Palace and other government ministries by American troops.

Jonassaint, an 81-year-old installed as provisional president by the Haitian military after Aristide was forced into exile, thanked Haitians for their help "through the most tragic period of its history."

Jonassaint pressured de facto officials to sign a pact with the United States and accept an agreement brokered by former President Carter to avert an American invasion. Under the pact, the Hai-

tian military leadership had until Saturday to step down.

"Because of the exceptional circumstances and the situation imposed on our country, from this day on the government ceases to run the administration of state," Jonassaint said.

The world never recognized the military's designation last May of Jonassaint to replace the democratically elected Aristide. Jonassaint was not expected to leave the country.

But Cedras and his family will leave Haiti sometime yesterday, an aide to new commander Maj. Gen. Jean-Claude Duvalier told The Associated Press at the airport. The aide, identified only as Lt. Bernard, said Cedras was going to Panama or Argentina.

Duvalier met 90 minutes at the airport with US military officials. Meanwhile, the Cedras family packed at their hillside mansion overlooking Port-au-Prince.

When asked by reporters when the family was going, Cedras' brother Alix replied testily: "Why would you ask me that?"

US Embassy spokesman Stanley Schragar said yesterday that Panama is "a very good possibility" for taking in Cedras, his family, fellow coup leader Brig. Gen. Philippe Blamby and others tied to the military.

Panama President Ernesto Pe-

rez Balladares said this morning that he hadn't decided whether to grant political asylum to Cedras and it may take a day or more.

"The one who has to make the decision is me, and I still have not," Perez Balladares said. He said he doesn't plan to decide as long as he is out of the country.

He spoke to reporters at Panama City airport before taking off for Managua, the Nicaraguan capital, where a summit of Central American presidents is being held on ecological problems affecting the region. Perez Balladares is expected to return today to Panama.

Aristide himself has urged Panama to let in Cedras. "It would bring peace to Haiti," he said Tuesday from Washington.

Last week, the neighboring Dominican Republic provided exile to the third coup leader, Port-au-Prince police chief Michel Francois.

Now Francois is running into trouble. The lower house of Parliament in the Dominican Republic unanimously declared him "persona non grata" Tuesday and called on Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer to expel him.

"We cannot allow our country to be converted into a sanctuary for this class of people," said Vinicio Tobal, a spokesman for the opposition Dominican Liberation Party.

S. Korean shot dead, car bombs rock Algiers

TUNIS (Reuters) - In a brutal explosion of fresh violence in Algeria yesterday, gunmen shot dead a South Korean businessman and a local politician and four car bombs exploded in the capital.

One man was blown to bits as he fled one bomb which went off prematurely in the locality of Gardi, in Kouba district on the heights of the capital. Security forces shot dead his two accomplices.

The official news agency APS said the other bombs, which exploded almost simultaneously, caused panic and two people were slightly hurt.

South Korean businessman Kang Dae-Hyun, 56, was gunned down as he bought newspapers near his home in Bordj el-Bahri, some 25 km east of Algiers, state radio said quoting security officials.

His killing brought to 64 the number of foreigners to be murdered in Algeria since last September when they became caught up in the conflict between Moslem

fundamentalists who have been battling the army-backed authorities since January 1992. They took to guns after the authorities cancelled a general election which the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), later banned, was on the brink of winning.

More than 10,000 people have since died violently.

Kang was representative of South Korean conglomerate Daewoo, which sold Korean-manufactured cars there and which Algerian officials said was involved in several joint projects.

One project was building the Hilton hotel near Algiers international airport. The hotel, which opened in 1993, after a delay over a payment dispute, was later closed, apparently for security reasons, and its 500 staff laid off.

Moslem fundamentalists opposed its construction and promised to turn it into housing for some of the city's poor if they came to power.

Swiss cult leader Jouret still missing

GENEVA (AP) - With confirmation that two key members of a doomsday cult were among the 53 people found dead last week, hopes for unraveling the mystery surrounding the deaths remain with the cult's leader.

There has been no sign of cult leader Luc Jouret since fires in two Swiss villages Oct. 4 revealed the deaths of 48 members of the Order of the Solar Temple cult. Another five cult members were found dead in Canada.

Swiss police said yesterday the cult's financial controller, Camille Flet, was among 23 found in a remote farmhouse in Chery.

Police on Monday confirmed the cult's mastermind, Joseph di Mambro, a 70-year-old French Canadian, was among the bodies found in chalets in Granges-sur-Salvan.

Flet, a 68-year-old Swiss national, was closely linked to Jouret, prompting Swiss media to speculate that it was likely the charismatic leader was also among the dead rather than on the run.

Yeltsin blames ruble's nosedive on 'sabotage'

MOSCOW (Reuters) - President Boris Yeltsin fired acting Finance Minister Sergei Dubinin and demanded the head of conservative Central Bank chief Viktor Geraschenko yesterday as the hunt for a scapegoat for Russia's rouble collapse began.

Yeltsin said the rouble's nosedive was the result "of sabotage" by groups who organized the disastrous fall.

The currency debacle threatened to blow into a full-scale political crisis as Yeltsin ordered the head of the former KGB intelligence service to investigate the causes of the rouble's 21.5 percent crash against the dollar.

The public anger fast turned against the government as the State Duma (lower parliament) called a formal vote of confidence in the government on October 21 at the request of an opposition faction, the centrist Democratic Party of Russia.

The rouble rose 5.1 percent on Moscow's Interbank Currency Exchange yesterday to 3,736 to the

dollar from Tuesday's 3,926 after losing half its value in less than two months.

Yeltsin's chief of staff Sergei Filatov told reporters the president had signed a decree dismissing reformer Dubinin, whose provisional appointment in January had never been confirmed.

Yeltsin also sent a letter to the State Duma seeking the dismissal of Geraschenko, Duma chairman Ivan Rybkin said.

Under the Russian constitution, the central bank governor is appointed by parliament on Yeltsin's recommendation.

Conservative Geraschenko, a sworn enemy of reformers since taking office in July 1992, has traditionally had support among the Duma's majority conservatives, agrarians and ex-communists.

But yesterday representatives of all factions seemed opposed to his remaining in office. The Duma put off a decision until today, pending a report from the finance committee.

Refusal to sack him could raise

the spectre of another head-on collision between Yeltsin and his parliament. Last year's confrontation ended in street battles and bloodshed.

Foreign exchange trading came to a halt after news of the sackings. "Nobody knows what sort of policy the new bosses will implement," said Dmitry Piskulov of Rossiyskiy Kredit bank.

Banking sources named Dubinin's first deputy, Andrei Vavilov, as a likely candidate for the finance minister's post.

Two Dubinin deputies, Sergei Aleksashenko and Andrei Kazmin, told Reuters they too would go if the minister was sacked.

Yeltsin was not alone in his conviction that the rouble crisis was caused by shadowy political enemies. Russians brought up under the Soviet command economic system often assume political manoeuvring lies behind economic turmoil.

Economy Minister Alexander Shokhin said the rouble's collapse was a plot to destabilise the

government. "There are forces out there who do not want to see the government in full control. Now we need to find out who all these speculative political and commercial forces on the exchange market are," he told Ostankino television.

Shokhin, a Marxist-educated economist, then vowed to punish "illegal" hard currency transactions on the MICEK market.

The rouble's collapse, yet another nasty introduction to the pitfalls of capitalism for millions of Russians, will push up inflation and sabotage government efforts to fund its widening budget deficit by non-inflationary domestic debt issues.

Reformist economist Andrei Ilarionov said inflation could soar as high as 50 percent a month from September's 7.7 in the coming months as the cost of imported goods, which make up nearly half of Russia's consumer market, soars. He predicted October monthly inflation would hit 15 percent.

Research on atoms, carbon wins Nobel Prizes

STOCKHOLM (AP) - An American and a Canadian shared the Nobel prize in physics yesterday for using nuclear reactors in the 1940s and 50s to study matter in its tiniest details.

A Hungarian-born American also won the chemistry prize yesterday for discovering properties of hydrocarbons which, among other things, could lead to greater fuel efficiency and better plastics.

Each prize carries a 7-million-kronor (\$933,000) award.

The prize for physics - which experts admitted was belated - was awarded to Bertram N. Brockhouse, of McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, and Clifford G. Shull of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Mass.

In the years after World War II, Brockhouse, now 76, and Shull, 79, pioneered the development of neutron spectroscopy, which has led to further advances by others who already have been honored with other Nobel awards.

"I'm astonished and surprised," Brockhouse said from his home in Canada, laughing. "How on earth could they pick me?"

The researchers developed techniques of scattering neutrons as a way of looking closely at solids and liquids, an achievement that has had applications in everything from ceramic superconductors to exhaust cleaning systems in vehicles, the Royal Swedish Academy said in a statement.

"In simple terms, Clifford Shull has helped answer the question of where atoms 'are' and Bertram Brockhouse the question of what atoms 'do,'" the academy said.

"They made their pioneering contributions at the first nuclear reactors in the United States and Canada in the late 1940s and 1950s," the statement said.

Working at the rudimentary re-



Nobel Prize laureates George Olah (left) and Clifford Shull.

(Reuters)

actors, the men watched atoms as they broke apart and scattered their neutrons. When the neutrons bounced against atoms, the particles changed directions, revealing the arrangement of groups of atoms. Changes in speed in turn revealed the movement of the atoms.

"Successive developments have led to today's large installations specially built for studies of condensed matter in, for example, France, England and the United States," the academy said.

Scientists working at some of the facilities have won Nobel prizes themselves. Georg Bednorz and Alexander Müller won in 1987 and Pierre-Gilles de Gennes won in 1991.

The groundbreaking research by Brockhouse and Shull could yet

lead to improvements in areas such as computer memory power and environmental protection, the statement said.

The chemistry prize went to Budapest native George A. Olah, 67, of the University of California at Los Angeles. Olah showed in the 1960s that certain types of hydrocarbon molecules - called carbocation intermediates - could be stable and long-lived.

"Recognition is always a surprise. It is gratifying," Olah said from his Beverly Hills home yesterday. "There is nothing in our life that is not touched by hydrocarbons, from pharmaceuticals to gasoline."

His research, among other things, has allowed improvements in combustion engines.

"It is basic research," said Carl-Olof Jacobson, a secretary of the Swedish Academy. "But (it) has

meant a lot to the development of organic chemistry especially in the petrochemical industry."

Citing an example, Jacobson said Olah opened the door for other chemists who had been trying to distill gasoline that burns cleaner in engines. His invention of ways to study and generate types of hydrocarbons also could improve the quality of plastics and other petrochemical products.

The Royal Swedish Academy cited Olah for "original and imaginative work" which has "won widespread recognition among organic chemists and his work on carbocation now has a prominent position in all modern textbooks."

Asked why it took so long to honor Shull and Brockhouse, a Swedish professor Karl Erik Larsson said: "It is hard to distinguish the tree that grows higher than the other trees."

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 51, Ramat Gan, Jerusalem (91000)
Telephone 315666, Telex 26121, Fax 389527, CIRCULATION - 315610, Fax 389017, ADVERTISING - 315608, 315637-40, Fax 389408, TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasgar, P.O. Box 28348 (61283) Telephone 6390333, Fax 6390277, HAIFA: 19 Nordau, Hader
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The kidnapping

PERHAPS more than any other terrorist incident since the signing of the Oslo agreement, the kidnapping of Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann has shaken Israel to the core. That an armed soldier can be snatched in the center of the country, whisked away with impunity to the Gaza District despite army checkpoints and other security measures, and then used as a means to blackmail a whole nation, is as demoralizing as it is worrisome. Personal safety has never been more threatened.

To those who support the agreement with the PLO, the incident is a serious blow. It is not only that a year after the famous handshake Palestinians are engaging in one of the ugliest forms of terrorist warfare. Nor is it the Palestinian Authority's inability to immediately deliver the captive soldier that galls Israelis most. Complete success against terrorism is impossible, and Israel would not begrudge anyone an honest failure.

What has incensed even such ardent advocates of the current process as Environment Minister, Yossi Sarid is Yasser Arafat's flagrant refusal to make the most minimal attempt to combat any form of terrorism. It is not a new refusal. Arafat has disregarded his commitment to condemn and to punish Palestinian terrorists ever since he made it, in writing, more than a year ago.

In fact, he has done the exact opposite of what he pledged. Instead of publicly denouncing and renouncing violence, he has made statements that in the Middle East can only be interpreted as an incitement to violence. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres may be willing to believe that a call for jihad is a summons to spiritual renewal. Arafat's followers know better.

The fanatic Hamas, the declared enemy of the peace process, has presumably been Arafat's nemesis. But Arafat has never lifted a finger against it. On the contrary, he has consistently tried to placate the organization by refusing to condemn its actions and demanding the release of its leaders and convicted murderers from Israeli prisons. His newspapers celebrate every Hamas killer who loses his life as a martyr.

Even this past Sunday, when two Israelis were murdered in an intended massacre in Jerusalem by

two Hamas gunmen - one a member of the Palestinian Authority's police and the other a former prisoner released at the PLO's request - Arafat refused to condemn the act.

Such conduct is hardly designed to inspire faith in Israeli hearts. True, terrorist activities against Israelis by Arafat's Fatah gunmen have almost ceased since Arafat entered Gaza and Jericho. (Though Fatah men still attack "collaborators.") But an agreement between Fatah and Hamas allows Izzadin Kassam, the Hamas military arm, to shoot Israelis in the territories and inside the Green Line. The only PLO condition is that the group keep the peace in Gaza and Jericho.

What Arafat may not have expected is that Hamas would not confine its operations to areas outside the "autonomy," and that it would use Gaza as a shelter and a terror base from which to mount attacks in Israel.

Arafat may have also underestimated the impact on the government of hostage taking combined with blackmail and threats of murder. He can hardly be blamed for supposing that, even after a kidnapping, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will keep his vow to continue negotiating "as if there is no terrorism." After all, the killing of 70 Israelis in the past year never prompted the government to threaten even a short suspension of the talks with the PLO.

If Arafat decides now that the latest incident, unlike its predecessors, can really stop the process and postpone Israeli withdrawal, he will try to find Wachsmann and deliver him to Israel. But it is doubtful that he will ever do anything drastic against Hamas, or that Hamas will be dissuaded from continuing the "armed struggle."

The kidnapping has left Rabin few options except to place the responsibility where it belongs, and stand firm in his refusal to negotiate with the kidnappers. It is comforting to know that he recognizes that the responsibility is indeed Arafat's and that he has acted accordingly. And it is encouraging to know that at a time of dire emergency, when the life of an Israeli hangs in the balance, national contentions cease, political antagonisms are forgotten, and adversaries unite behind the government.

Clinton as winner

THE departure of dictator Lt.-Gen. Raoul Cedras has been a cause for celebration by Haitians. But for President Bill Clinton it is a personal triumph and a startling vindication of a sure-footed operation that has been dogged by the most mean-minded carping and criticism.

Certainly it is easier to dismantle one system rather than construct another, and the problems facing both Washington and the returning President Bertrand Aristide will be formidable. But the confrontation with the Haitian military, the build-up of American forces, the obtaining of UN approval, the eleventh hour diplomacy that turned a full-scale invasion into a peaceful temporary occupation, and the skilled destruction of the instruments of dictatorship - all these add up to a masterly handling of the crisis by Clinton's team.

Furthermore, and without stumbling, Washington first detected Saddam Hussein's new threat to Kuwait and, with Haiti still at a critical point, stage-managed a second speedy and impressive emergency military buildup to defend this far-away Gulf ally from the bully of Baghdad.

While the basic international news reporting of the events and facts has been excellent, it is in the opinion sectors of the media that the lamentable state of modern analytical journalism has been laid bare. Sneering has replaced sobriety, cynicism has ousted deliberation, and sniping at the US president has replaced baseball as the American summer sport.

The Carter negotiations that halted the invasion of Haiti as US warplanes were already airborne

was greeted with universal derision, because Clinton "the draft dodger" had ducked out of a war. The positive aspects of the peaceful but forceful removal of Cedras and his clique never surfaced, as the US media lambasted the administration for not making the departure of Cedras part of the accord. This, of course, has proved to be far from nonsense, since first the Haitian police chief and now all the other coup leaders are fleeing the country.

Had the European powers been half so successful in developing a coherent policy on the Bosnian war as Clinton has been in handling the Haiti crisis, they might have some basis for grumbling about the lack of US action in the former Yugoslavia.

The time has come for the American media's opinion makers humbly to inform the American public that the perception of Clinton as a weak and ineffectual foreign policy president is a myth of their own creation. Tough criticism of a democratic government and its leaders will always be necessary. But criticism without credibility is seriously undermining the faith of voters in a very important truth.

Elected men or women may have personal flaws, make errors of judgment, or lead a colorful private life. But failure to see their strengths, intelligence, and successes makes the world an easier playground for the unelected Saddams, Castros, and Cedras who are, after all, the main cause of one costly international crisis after another.



The Rambo of Baghdad

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

AMERICAN, British and Israeli intelligence have totally failed to pierce Saddam Hussein's personal defenses. This is what lies at the heart of the present bewilderment and panic in Western and Arab capitals over Saddam's belligerent military moves on his border with Kuwait.

Despite soothing words from the Gulf states and premier Yitzhak Rabin's comment that "Israel has nothing to fear," President Clinton is rushing a major force to the Persian Gulf to ensure America isn't caught napping if the Iraqis really do launch an attack against their vulnerable neighbor. If that happens, there's no saying whether or not Saddam will unleash the Scuds from his secret armories in the direction of Tel Aviv.

The reality is that nobody has the faintest idea of Saddam's intentions, despite the flood of contradictory predictions by newspaper and TV "experts." Israel's chief of staff Ehud Barak put it with endearing honesty: "We don't know what goes on in the space between Saddam's ears."

The nervous guessing game facing the West and Iraq's oil-rich neighbors is a direct consequence of the failure of all secret services, from the CIA to the Mossad, to either plant spies in Saddam's entourage or even get remotely close enough to assassinate him.

To rub salt into the wound, the "Rambo of Baghdad," as Saddam is called by French intelligence operatives, came within a whisker of killing former president George Bush during a visit to Kuwait. As a result, the White House concluded that the US had blundered in not finishing Saddam off after the UN forces crushed the Iraqi army in Operation Desert Storm.

Priority orders were given to the CIA to "neutralize" the Syrian dictator, but every effort to do so was thwarted by the tight security ring surrounding Saddam. Using at least two, and possibly three, doubles, Saddam at times seemed to be in several places at once. The deep underground bunker system close to his Baghdad palace is considered safe against all possible bombing attacks. His bodyguards, numbering hundreds, are fanatically loyal and ready to die for him.

After failing to get Saddam in Desert Storm, the CIA switched to different tactics. Iraqi generals in exile in London, Paris and other Western havens were offered fortunes to find a way of getting a mole into Saddam's entourage.

Many kept the money and did nothing. Those who did manage to bribe officials or army officers received the sliced-off intimate parts

of their agents in the mail and, in turn, were either killed, or simply vanished. The CIA spent scores of millions of dollars on a propaganda campaign which "proved" that Saddam was hated by his subjects and losing power. But Saddam still rules supreme. His widely publicized cutting of food rations to the poor was a ploy to force the UN to lift trade sanctions on "humanitarian" grounds. Saddam cared nothing for the suffering his move entailed.

THE ISRAELIS have fared no better. The tragic 1992 training accident at Tze'elim-2, in which five IDF elite soldiers were hit by an armed missile and died, was said by foreign newspapers to be linked

Saddam has seen
Bush off the stage
and lied to UN
inspectors. He is
sure he has the world
at his mercy

to an Israeli plan to ambush and kill Saddam Hussein. The presence of several members of the IDF General Staff at the exercise indicated just how important this project was to Israel.

Of course Saddam would like the sanctions lifted. And his demand is backed by French, German, Swiss and Japanese businessmen, who are eager to trade with Iraq, and their governments, who are exerting considerable pressure.

But the Americans are now saying there is no question of the sanctions being lifted. The reality of the embargo is that it is full of holes. A Kuwaiti millionaire who recently visited Israel told us: "Saddam still holds vast quantities of money and gold bullion he stole when he invaded my country."

Using this money, Saddam is smuggling in vast quantities of machinery and material to build up both his conventional and unconventional weapons stocks. His traders are bringing in the necessary material overland, through Turkey and Jordan. The 900 nuclear scientists at work in secret establishments all over the country have all the equipment they need.

But the main embargo-buster is Iran.

Although the two countries fought a bitter seven-year war, Iran is now doing business with Iraq, selling its oil via Iran. The mullahs of Teheran know that a resurgent Iraq would again try to topple Kuwait, as well as the Royal House of Saud. If this happens, Teheran plans to topple Saddam by stirring up fundamentalist passions in Iraq, or directly invading its neighbor.

Meanwhile, Iran's interest lies in propping up Saddam. Clinton is aware of the danger of a regional explosion, which is why he is treating the current throbbing of war drums in the sands of the desert with deadly seriousness.

His advisers have warned him that Saddam really believes in his own invincibility. He has seen Bush off the stage and lied to UN inspectors about the size and nature of his weapons stocks. He is convinced he has the world at his mercy.

He also believes that Israel, which didn't raise a finger to defend its people in the Gulf War, is nothing more than a paper tiger. "The peace at all costs," is, to Saddam Hussein, a sign of weakness and a lack of will to survive," the Kuwaiti businessman told us.

Jordanian King Hussein, Saddam's western neighbor and a realist, regards the Iraqi leader as dangerous. Although he had his fingers badly burned by supporting Saddam in the Gulf War, he appears to be backing him again. The semi-official Al-Rai newspaper in Amman is demanding that UN sanctions against Iraq be lifted.

The Jordan Times goes even further: "Iraq's patience with the Security Council is running out, and rightly so. Iraq deserves to be compensated for its compliance and friendly posture toward the UN."

Neither of these papers would be promoting these views - which are in direct opposition to President Clinton's determination not to lift the embargo - without the king's blessing. The Times also warns Israel that "no peace can be created in the Middle East unless Iraq is a partner."

Jordan's king is a master of survival. By bowing to Baghdad, he clearly understands the danger looming on his border.

Western intelligence agencies would surely be advised to focus their energies on ridding the world of an arrogant dictator who threatens death and destruction to all who dare challenge him.

The writers are authors of The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East.

Big test

GERSHON BASKIN

THE kidnapping of Corporal Nahshon Wachsmann has brought Israeli-Palestinian relations to a new turning point.

The Israeli public views this kind of kidnapping as one of the gravest of crimes. This is because the army is us, and, more important, our children.

Every Israeli watching Wachsmann's parents on television last night had the same reaction: tears. Every parent in Israel put himself in their place, keenly feeling their pain and suffering.

This kidnapping follows on the heels of a terrorist attack in the heart of downtown Jerusalem. That too hit hard at every Israeli family. Everyone could say, "I was just there; it could have been me."

A critical point has been reached. If Nahshon Wachsmann dies, there will be a breaking point. It has already been signaled by the halting of the bi-lateral talks in Cairo.

This is the first time since the beginning of the peace process that Rabin has called back a negotiating team, freezing the peace process. It's the first time the full responsibility for the welfare of an Israeli is being put in the hands of Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority.

If Arafat can return this soldier to his family alive, it will signal Israelis that the Palestinians have truly crossed the road and are serious about the peace process.

The follow-up for the Palestinians, whichever way events turn, must be real Palestinian actions aimed at crushing armed resis-

If Arafat can get
Nahshon Wachsmann
back alive, it will
signal Israelis that
the Palestinians
really mean peace

tance to the peace process. The Palestinian Authority must make a political decision to disarm the militants.

Up till now, there has been no real Palestinian action against the hard-core opposition. Arafat has been working to "bring them over" to his side.

Now he and his authority must make the political decision that the Oslo Agreement and terrorism cannot exist side by side. Arafat (like Rabin) has declared many times that Palestinians and Israelis are allies now, not enemies. This is the chief difference between Arafat and those who oppose him.

A peace process between Israel and the Palestinians can only continue if the Palestinian side accepts responsibility and exercises control over the people inside its territory.

IN DECEMBER 1992, in an article in *Ma'ariv*, I wrote that "the true test of the autonomy will lie in the Palestinians' ability to prevent violence against Israel and Israelis." I advocated turning the responsibility for internal security over to the Palestinians.

If the true test of the interim period is in the Palestinians' ability to become responsible members of the international community, the heart of that test is responsible action where protecting human lives is concerned.

If Wachsmann's life is saved by the Palestinian Police, and if the Palestinian Authority makes a political decision to fight the armed opposition, Israelis - who have had serious reservations about Arafat and about relations with the PLO - will begin to view the agreements between Israel and the Palestinians as real achievements.

Palestinian success in this confrontation would be a huge success for the peace process. It would bring about a significant resolve to speed up the process and to begin confronting the final-status issues, which the Palestinians are so anxious to do.

If, on the other hand, the Palestinians fail to bring Wachsmann out alive, the peace process will take a serious turn for the worse. Israelis will put such intense pressure on their government that even Shimon Peres's resolve will be worn down.

Palestinian statements of condemnation will do nothing to heal the process if Wachsmann is killed. Action is the only voice which will be listened to.

It is very frightening to realize that the future of the peace process lies in the hands of Hamas and the Palestinian Police. But they alone can determine the future.

If Wachsmann is killed, Hamas will become the victors. This will certainly be the logic used when calls are made to renew the peace process and the talks.

The talks will be renewed, but Israelis will feel no sympathy for the process. In the end, the Rabin government will be brought down, or not re-elected.

So much rides on the outcome of this incident.

The writer is the Israeli director of the Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE JEWS OF POLAND

Sir, - In "He smiled and saved Jews" (October 2), Hillel Levine writes: "In the first eight years of Hitler's rule... the Nazis were satisfied to realize their vision of *Judenrein* as much through emigration from Europe as through the smokestacks of Auschwitz."

Well, for the first six of those eight years, they couldn't have used Auschwitz (Oświęcim) because it was in Poland.

He also mentions "thousands of Jews who entered the Soviet Union." If he means Polish Jews who lived in Eastern Poland or escaped to it from Western Poland when the Germans attacked in 1939, they did not exactly enter the Soviet Union; the Soviet Union "entered" their part of Poland two weeks later, and Lithuania in 1940. The same year, thousands of Polish Christians and Jews, including the undersigned, did enter the Soviet

Union proper as far as Siberia, but they did so on deportation trains, having been rounded up at night, a full year before Germany attacked Russia and ever ran those areas. Whatever Stalin's reasons for the deportations, saving Jewish lives was not one of them. It should also be remembered that there were many Jews among the 15,000 Polish officers and 8-9,000 civilian prisoners executed by the Russians in 1940, and among thousands more who perished in Soviet labor camps.

Coming from the pen of a Jewish professor (Hillel Levine) who is the head of the Center for Jewish Studies at Boston University, these are not minor slips. It's playing straight into the hands of those who deny the Holocaust and are grateful for any credibility gap of this sort.

ZYGMUNT FRANKEL

Ramat Gan.

BRAVE CONCERT

Sir, - I have just returned from a concert at the Bible Lands Museum featuring the Olive Branch Ensemble.

The evening of mainly Arabic music was a brave and imaginative change to the museum's usual genre.

Shoham Eimer's rich voice backed by able musicians provided a warm and at times spicy evening - though a little less percussion would have been preferable during the ballads.

It is a shame that this event was so poorly supported. The auditorium was hardly a quarter full.

We live in a society of mixed cultures surrounded by Arabic cultures. Events such as this one attempt to close the gap of bigotry whilst promoting understanding of our neighbors.

MOSES L. GARSON
Jerusalem (London).

LIFE IN UPPER GALILEE

I worked as a dentist in the kibbutzim of Upper Galilee for two and a half years in the mid-nineteen fifties. On many occasions, our treatment sessions at Kibbutz Hagovrin (now Gadot) had to be canceled or transferred to another kibbutz due to bombardment by the Syrians.

Petah Tikva. JACKIE JASWAN

MORAL VALUES

Sir, - With reference to the Kollek article of October 7, "Distance begets respect," I cannot but agree with virtually all the points raised as a sad and widespread sign of our times.

Yet, I wonder, are those who stand at the helm people whom we can trust and respect both on a personal and public level? Are they people of moral stature to whom we can look to set the tone? Politicians and statesmen are also human beings and liable to err and even occasionally change direction, but this is a far cry from today's accepted codes of conduct in private, political and business life and is already evident from school age onwards.

Let us choose our political leaders not for their charisma, but for their human and moral values. I like to think that there are still a few of these around.

ELISHEVA CRAMER
Jerusalem.

POSTSCRIPT

A MAN WHO attacked his estranged wife on the bus she drove was thrown out the door - and decapitated when the bus crashed into a wall.

Edward Musgrove, 32, boarded the parked bus in Compton, California, while his wife Troylynn, 31, was taking a break.

"She immediately radioed for assistance and began driving away while her husband continued his assault," a sheriff's spokesman said.

They struggled and Musgrove grabbed the steering wheel, causing the bus to glance into a tree and crash into a brick wall. The impact knocked Musgrove out of the shattered door and into the wall, decapitating him.

THE RECIPE for Chanterelle Lemon Pasta called for one cup of chanterelle mushrooms but the photo in the food section of Ottawa's largest daily newspaper was of deadly Destroying Angels.

"Wild Auro: Mushrooms add exotic taste to a meal," read the caption beneath the photo of the poisonous mushrooms in the *Ottawa Citizen*.

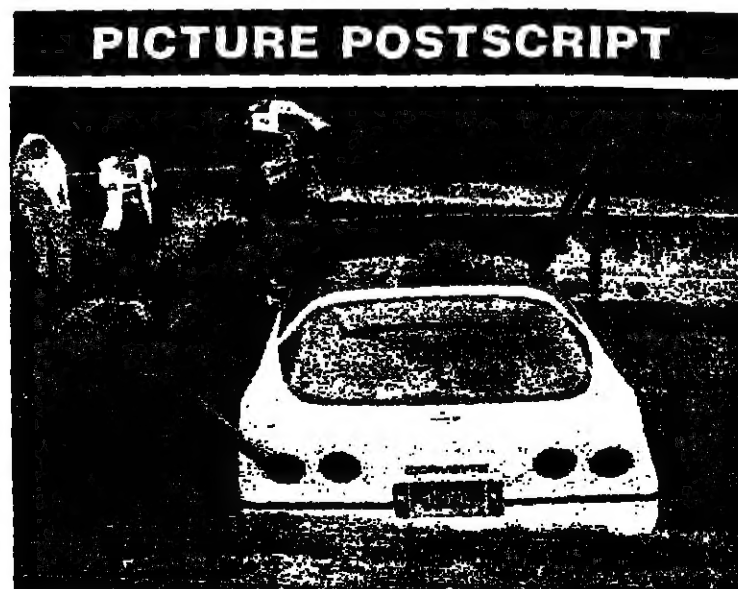
The next day, the red-faced editors ran a correction, saying it had mixed up the photo of the poisonous fungus with that of the safe and much tastier Chanterelle variety.

HAVEN'T YOU been concerned all these years that Israeli citrus is destroying the world?

You can rest easy: New Jaffa grapefruits now have stickers that read "Environment friendly." But what does that mean - that they don't produce methane gas any more? They don't destroy the

ozone layer? Dolphins don't die when the grapefruits are harvested? They no longer excrete toxic waste when peeled? Maybe because they're now shipped by donkey instead of trucks.

Well, what is an environment-friendly grapefruit?



These people are not mourning a car, but the man who owned it. George Swanson, 71, of Pittsburgh, is being buried in his Corvette casket (complete with roof wreath) exactly as decreed by his last wish.

(AP)

Key Representative Rates

US dollar	NIS 3.0300	+0.30%
Sterling	NIS 4.7913	+0.08%
Mark	NIS 1.9843	+0.47%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York market indexes

Index	Value	Change
DJ Industrial	2974.81	+0.22
DJ 300	2974.81	+0.22
DJ 100	2974.81	+0.22
DJ 200	2974.81	+0.22
DJ 300	2974.81	+0.22
DJ 100	2974.81	+0.22
DJ 200	2974.81	+0.22
DJ 300	2974.81	+0.22

Other stock market indexes

Index	Value	Change
NYSE	2974.81	+0.22
AMEX	2974.81	+0.22
NASDAQ	2974.81	+0.22

Israeli stocks in NY

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

NYSE / AMEX

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

AMEX

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

NASDAQ

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

FTSE 100

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

DAX

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

Nikkei

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

Hong Kong

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

S&P 500

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

FTSE 100

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S&P 500

Stock	Value	Change
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Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

FTSE 100

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S&P 500

Stock	Value	Change
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Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

S&P 500

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Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

FTSE 100

Stock	Value	Change
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Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

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Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

Hong Kong

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Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

S&P 500

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
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Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

FTSE 100

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Nikkei

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Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

Hong Kong

Stock	Value	Change
Bank Leumi	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Hapoalim	2974.81	+0.22
Bank Mizrahi	2974.81	+0.22

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading	Two-sided trading
<p>Commercial</p> <p>Bank Leumi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Hapoalim 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Mizrahi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Real Estate</p> <p>Bank Leumi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Hapoalim 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Mizrahi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Insurance</p> <p>Bank Leumi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Hapoalim 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Mizrahi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Trade & Services</p> <p>Bank Leumi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Hapoalim 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Mizrahi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Industries</p> <p>Bank Leumi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Hapoalim 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Mizrahi 2974.81 +0.22</p>	<p>Afternoon</p> <p>Bank Leumi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Hapoalim 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Mizrahi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Morning</p> <p>Bank Leumi 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Hapoalim 2974.81 +0.22</p> <p>Bank Mizrahi 2974.81 +0.22</p>

Two-Sided, Maof indexes rise slightly

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO



THE Two-Sided and Maof indexes rose by 0.32 percent and 0.51 percent, respectively, in trading yesterday. The Karam fell 0.62 percent, but it seemed more a reaction to the declines on Tuesday. Turnover was NIS 120 million.

The institutions continued to stay out of the market and let the money managers do their thing.

Confronted with net redemptions, they see no particular reason to enter the market. Similarly, the mutual funds are also facing redemptions. The sums are small, but small sums on a daily basis add up.

This is contributing to the general weakness of the market.

The money managers are in a tight spot. They have been playing the technical game, buying when the index declines to 170 and selling when it gets close to 180.

This is an example of small gains which should keep the clients happy. The only trouble is, of course, that it is easy for one money manager to play that game. When everyone is doing it at the same time, it is another story.

It is an example of the fallacy of composition applied to the stock market.

The only ray of light comes from foreign investors, who seem to have discovered the market. The inclusion of Israel among the emerging countries' index is likely to channel investment money toward Israel.

In fact, foreign investors have been exhibiting interest for solid blue chips, such as Discount Investment and Clal Israel. Should large amounts of foreign capital be injected into the TASE, things might change.

The prices of the securities, which were the object of interest on the part of foreign investors, did not rise in an unusual manner. Discount Investment was up 1.5 percent on a turnover of NIS 6.9m., and Clal Israel rose by 0.5 percent on a turnover of only NIS 4.8m.

Teva recovered some of its declines of the previous day. Its share rose 4 percent on a turnover of NIS 7.5m. The fact that the ADR in New York declined by 2.5 percent probably only contributed to giving more courage to the Israeli investors.

The oil exploration securities continued to drop. Abjack was down 5.7 percent and Isramco fell 5 percent.

FTSE Index closes above 3,100 level

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Bullish British inflation data helped the FTSE 100 close at the 3,100 level for the first time in just under a month, helped by futures and gilt gains.

The move was accompanied by a higher-than-average turnover, with second line stocks also participating in the advance, which indicated further market gains in the short term.

The blue chip index finished 27.5 points higher at 3,100.5.

FRANKFURT - German shares ended firmer but off day's highs, with traders uncertain whether a pre-election rally has run its course.

The DAX closes at 2,077.57, up 0.31 percent, or 6.51 points. In after-post-bourse trading the Dax was down 15.03 at 2,072.68.

PARIS - French shares ended little changed after a moderate day's trading marked by consolidation after strong gains so far this week.

The CAC-40 Index closed down 0.88, or 0.05 percent, at 1,918.14.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended lower in slack trading. Business was confined to professionals with client orders virtually non-existent. Dealers said Tuesday's gains had been due to short covering which was coming to an end.

The market waited for US data today and tomorrow for new factors to trade on. The all-share SPI eased 2.07 to 1,700.88.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks ended sharply higher on arbitrage-linked buying, with the Nikkei average closing above 20,000 for the first time since September 13. It finished 268.26 points, or 1.35 percent higher, at 20,089.72.

HONG KONG - Shares closed off their highs following a late surge in afternoon trade on buying of China-related stocks and Hong Kong Telecom. The Hang Seng Index closed up 170.03 points, or 1.82 percent, at 9,532.35.

SYDNEY - Australian shares reversed early gains to close slightly weaker after buying interest evaporated. Shares took their early lead from Wall Street which rose strongly on good corporate profit reports on Tuesday, but local buyers deserted the market in the morning session.

The All Ordinaries Index closed 1.0 points, or 0.05 percent lower, at 2,002.6.

JOHANNESBURG - South African shares finished generally firmer as the market found support from stronger world equities and a mild gold price recovery. Overall index 39 points better at 5,564, industrial index up 22 at 5,267 and gold index 24 higher at 2,290.

Dow ends winning streak

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue chip stocks broke a three-day winning streak yesterday, as caution set in ahead of key price data that could provoke yet another hike in interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended down 1.68 points at 3,875.15, after surging more than 100 points since last Friday.

In the broader market, declining issues led advances 1,105 to 995 on volume of 269 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The rally began Friday after a report on the jobless rate for September eased worries that the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates again soon. The Labor Department said the unemployment rate fell to 5.9 percent, slightly slower than expected.

But after three days of gains, also fueled by a flurry of strong corporate earnings, traders did not make big bets before today's re-

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFR	FFr
MARK	2.4375/5	157.78/0	2.0334/4	8.3437/8
STERLING	1.5440/2	0.8333/6	1.2882/4	5.2857/9
YEN	1.1881/8	0.4814/16	77.57/2	4.1015/3
SFR	0.2220/22	0.1188/9	18.88/4	0.2438/8
FFr				

Source: Reuters

Israel's grit saves the day against Slovakia

DEREK FATTAL and ORI LEWIS

ISRAEL'S national soccer side showed rare resolve and some opportunistic play to come back from a 2-0 deficit inflicted by Slovakia and force a well-earned 2-2 draw in their European Championship Group 1 qualifier at Ramat Gan last night.

The match, played before only 10,000 supporters, was one of the most exciting seen at the National Stadium for many a year, and the "disappointing" result was compensated for with some heart-stopping action at both ends of the pitch.

The Israeli back four had hardly touched the ball when the Slovaks left the home fans speechless after seven minutes.

An innocuous break on the left was suddenly turned into a goal as Real Madrid's Peter Dubovsky accelerated forward, then played the ball across to the unmarked Stefan Rusnak. With Bonnie Ginsburg stranded on the wrong side of goal, Rusnak fired low and hard to give his side the lead.

The hosts remained in shock as Rusnak and Dubovsky almost connected again with a similar break, this time on the right soon afterwards.

In the 15th minute, the tall, powerful Dubovsky was fouled five meters outside the area. Ginsburg lined up his defensive wall, as Slovakia's captain Lubomir Moravcik stood over the ball in readiness for the 18-meter free kick.

The St. Etienne midfielder delivered another bombshell for Israeli supporters, as he sent a hard curving shot around the right side of the wall and past the unsighted Ginsburg, who could only get his fingertips to it.

Rather than sink into despondency, Israel came back to life. In the 22nd minute, Ronnie Rosenthal buried down the left wing only to be sent crashing to the ground by Marian Zeman, one of six Slovak Bratislava players in Slovakia's opening line-up. Zeman was duly booked and Rosenthal came close, heading over from the resulting free kick.

In the 26th minute, Eyal Berkowitz manufactured Israel's first reply. He cut into Slovakian territory and edged the ball to Haim Revivo who in turn fed Ronen Harazi. The Betar Jerusalem center forward, making his 23rd national appearance, coolly hammered the ball into Ladislav Molnar's goal, to the roar of the Ramat Gan crowd.

Seven minutes later, Revivo jinxed his way past his marker near the halfway line then tore towards goal. Just inside the Slovakian area, he met Zeman who upended the Maccabi Haifa star with an ungracious tackle. Dutch referee John Blankensel pointed to the penalty spot, showed the Slovak fullback his second yellow card of the night, then reached for the red, signaling Zeman's early retirement from the match.

Tal Benin drove the penalty to the right of Molnar into the back of the net for a 35th-minute equalizer that sent the spectators into ecstasy.



ONE STEP AHEAD - Israel's Haim Revivo charges at goal as Slovakian defenders Tomas Stupala (right) and Vladimir Weiss give chase.

retirement from the match.

Tal Benin drove the penalty to the right of Molnar into the back of the net for a 35th-minute equalizer that sent the spectators into ecstasy.

The drama continued with Israel's next drive forward, but Benin smashed the ball high over goal.

The stadium was humming over the interval as the fans wondered what other surprises were in store.

The match immediately resumed its ferocious pace. Within three minutes, the easiest chance of the night fell to Rosenthal, but he squandered his simple opportunity. Inexplicably, he tamely headed

a low cross from a crouching position, when a shot would have better served the national interest.

At the other end of the pitch, Dubovsky displayed moves that should soon make him a household name in Spain. With Moravcik always in close attendance, the Slovakian kept sending nervous spasms through the Israeli back four.

Rosenthal missed again in the 62nd minute, but quickly made amends by skillfully chesting a pass into the path of Berkowitz whose attempt was gathered by Molnar.

Despite Israel's one-man advantage, the visitors showed tactical astuteness, battering down the hatches at the back, and playing long accurate passes upfield to their attacking duo. This dampened the previously frenetic speed of the game, and limited Israel's attacking options.

The host side's casualties began to mount up. Avi Nimni replaced a limping Benin, then captain Nir Klinger was stretched off in the 68th minute after clashing with Dubovsky. Revivo, who together with Berkowitz had led Israel's fight-back, began to fade from the game as a result of injury.

With 15 minutes left, the Slovaks reinforced midfield and defense with Ivan Kozak and Vladislav Zvara. Nevertheless Israel carved out two more fine chances. In the 80th minute, a plum cross from Marco Balbul was incessantly headed over the open goal by Rosenthal.

In the final seconds, Rosenthal flung the ball to the feet of Ronen Harazi who aimed straight into Molnar's hands.

Slovakia's coach, Jozef Venglos, was pleased with the result.

"I really have to thank my players for managing to hang on and play a good tactical game in the second half. It is not easy to play against such strong opposition with 10 men from the 33rd minute and still manage to survive without conceding a goal," he said.

Despite Israel's missed opportunity to go to the top of Group 1, coach Shlomo Scharf was enthusiastic about Israel's performance.

"After the players managed to equalize, they probably felt good about the rest of the game, they thought they could win. But I warned them of what might happen, and in cases like this it is also possible to lose. We knew that the Slovaks are good on the counter-attack," Scharf said.

"We came back from hell today, and if we can keep our disappointment at not winning in check, then this is proof that the praise showered on Israeli football by people worldwide is not just lip service."

European qualifiers

Denmark 3, Belgium 1 (Group 2)
Norway 1, Netherlands 1 (Group 5)
Greece 4, Finland 0 (Group 6)
Ireland 1, Slovakia 0 (Group 9)
Belgium 1, Georgia 0 (Group 7)
Moldova 3, Wales 2 (Group 7)
Russia 4, San Marino 0 (Group 8)
Malta 0, Czech Republic 0 (Group 5)
Belarus 2, Luxembourg 0 (Group 3)
Ukraine 0, Slovenia 0 (Group 4)
Spain 2, Macedonia 0 (Group 2)

Ferreira advances to quarters

HEATHER CHAIT

IN just 60 minutes, Wayne Ferreira shattered any doubts about his top seeding in the Joyce Eisenberg Israel Open in Ramat Hasharon yesterday.

From the outset, he looked every inch the champion as he launched a withering attack against a stranded Vince Spadea of the US. The blond South African advanced to the quarter-finals with a scoreline of 6-3, 6-4.

Also advancing to the Final Eight are Thomas Muster, Jonas Bjorkman and Luiz Mattar.

From the first game's break, Ferreira, 13th in the ATP rankings, barely needed to towel himself off as he pulverized Spadea's attempts to re-enter the game.

Spadea acquitted himself more admirably in the second set, hanging onto his serve until 4-4 when the lithe Ferreira passed him at the net with a perfectly aimed shot, broke serve and made sure of the match.

Third-seed Muster turned the tables on his victor from last year in the semifinal by whipping current champion, Stefano Pescosolido of Italy, 7-6(3), 5-7, 6-3.

Pescosolido's deep, flat shots prevented Muster from adopting his typical serve and volley game, keeping the Austrian to the baseline.

Both players struggled to find their rhythm in the first set with each being broken three times. Muster's play became more lively in the tiebreak, cleverly positioning the balls in unreachable spots.

In the second set, play went according to serve until 5-5 when the Italian shattered Muster's serve; and after squandering two set points, closed the set with a massive volley.

The tension continued in the final set. In the eighth game, Muster cracked serve, and with a double helping of aces in the next game, nabbed the match.

Muster's next opponent will be Luiz Mattar (91) who took almost three hours to oust Filip Dewulf (137), a member of Belgium's victorious Davis Cup team against Israel. The game was tight and pressured with two sets being decided on tiebreak. The score was 4-6, 7-6(3), 7-6(6).

Dewulf took the first set by breaking Mattar in the 10th game, but succumbed to the pressure in the next two sets. Tensions ran high with Mattar accusing Dewulf of aiming balls directly at him, threatening "to break the racket in your face."

Eighth-seed Bjorkman (55) battled against Christian Bergstrom (105) in a game characterized by dominant baseline play and two-handed backhands. Ultimately, Bjorkman's energy won the day with the score 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.

Two Israeli compatriots, Gilad Bloom, playing with Christian Saccanu, lost to M. Broad and G. van Emburgh 6-3, 3-6, 6-3; while Noam Behr and Ofer Sela were downed 6-2, 6-2 by second seeds L. Bale and J. de Jager.

J. Conde and Francisco Roig beat T. Kemper and J. Waite 2-6, 7-5, 6-4; and K. Haygarth and Marcus Ondruska stopped Bryan Shelton and F. Wiber 7-6(6), 7-6(2).

In today's matches, beginning at 14:00: Ferreira vs Bjorkman, Saccanu vs Ondruska, Amos Mansdorf vs Lars Jonsson, Fabrice Santoro vs Yoni Erlich, Andrei Cherkasov vs Gianluca Pozzi and Muster vs Mattar.

Sebtaoui to defend J'lem Marathon win

JOE HOFFMAN

HASSAN Sebtaoui, who won last year's Jerusalem Marathon, will return to defend his title.

The 31-year-old Moroccan will attempt to better his winning time of 2:30.53 at the third annual Jerusalem Marathon to be held on October 25. Joining him as the front runners are South Africans Nyawo Shadrack, 29 and Nyawo Bheki, 30.

Sebtaoui and Shadrack should turn the race into a two-runner showdown since the best times of each are only nine seconds apart. Sebtaoui clocked 2:16.30 at the Paris Marathon in 1991, while Shadrack came in at 2:16.39 in Botswana last year.

According to organizer Yitzhak Ofek, approximately 3,000 runners are expected to turn out for the full 42.195 kilometer marathon (26 miles, 385 yards), the half-marathon and the mini-marathon (one-tenth the full distance) with 100 runners from 12 countries in the main event.

The countries represented are: Austria, England, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Norway, the Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland and the US.

Prize money is NIS 3,000 each for the first man and woman to break the tape with half that amount set aside for the male and female winners of the half-marathon.

An additional inducement to turn on the steam are 66 Timex watches which will be given out to the first three finishers in each of the 22 categories of runners.

For the first time, the Jerusalem Marathon is twinned with the Paris Marathon; and race organizers from the French capital will be on hand to watch their sibling grow. Following last year's success, the French will also send a special delegation of 100 "Runners for Peace."

Ofek is already looking forward to next year's run which will be included as one of the official events of the 3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem.

Mayor Ehud Olmert will signal the start of the event, which begins and ends at Teddy Stadium (10:00 for the half-marathon, 10:10 for the marathon and 10:20 for the mini).

Although the exact course has yet to be determined, organizers say it will be essentially that of last year's. The runners will follow a path north on Herzl Boulevard towards the Knesset via the Monastery of the Cross and the Israel Museum, then to Givat Ram, Beit Hakerem, crossing Herzl Boulevard at Kikar Dania, down Aratzim Street towards the Jerusalem Forest.

From there, the runners will arrive at the farthest point, Moshav Ora; and return by way of Kiryat Menahem, Givat Masua, Goldberg Sports Hall, Golomb Street and finish at Teddy Stadium.

Registration continues until October 23. After that date, last-minute participants can register at Teddy Stadium (for further information, tel. 03-296179, 03-5281820, 03-5610887).

Sponsoring the race are the Jerusalem Municipality, the Ministry of Tourism, Yediot Aharonot, the local supplement Jerusalem, Coca Cola, Hertz, Paradise Hotel, Traflet, Brunet, DAA Sport Watches, Mei-Eden Mineral Water, Nur Advertising, Sigas, Nike, Eggad, Green and the Rikman Physiotherapy Center.

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England, Romania draw

WEMBLEY (AP) - Robert Lee scored on his debut in first-half injury time to cancel out a strike by Tottenham's Ilie Dumitrescu yesterday as England and Romania tied 1-1 in an exhibition soccer game.

Dumitrescu's first-half goal was the first England had conceded in five games under Terry Venables.

Four days after gaining a 0-0 tie in France in European Championship action, the Romanians fielded a full-strength lineup and deservedly took the lead after 37 minutes.

Florin Raducioiu sent over a cross from the right and Dumitrescu escaped from England captain Tony Adams to fire first-time by David Seaman from 15 yards.

The Romanians looked comfortable in possession but some times struggled in defense against England's tall players and the equalizer was the result of some typically English play.

Graeme Le Saux hoisted a high center to Alan Shearer, who climbed above a defender to head the ball down.

Lee had read the situation perfectly, collected the knock down and the Newcastle midfielder, who has scored 11 goals for his club this season, moved smoothly through to fire past goalkeeper Bogdan Stancu from 15 yards.

In the second half, Shearer went close to snatching the winner in the 76th minute when his goal-bound shot struck defender Daniel Prodan and went wide.

Owners reject proposal, season in doubt



NEW YORK (AP) - This season might have ended before it began.

Owners unanimously rejected the players' latest contract proposal Tuesday, extending the lockout that began October 1 and virtually assuring a full season won't be played.

Both sides are talking tough and settling in for a long battle that may mean no season at all.

"We see little reason for hope," union head Bob Goodenow said after management's rejection.

"The NHL is not interested in the fans, the game or the small-market clubs. They are committed to only one thing: a major fight with the players."

Players proposed a 7 percent tax on payrolls, far short of management's 12.2% plan.

"At this point you would have to believe it might last all year," Boston Bruins general manager Harry Sinden said. "It's very clear the owners view this as a very, very critical situation."

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman on had earlier postponed the start of the season until October 15, saying then he hoped teams could play full 84-game schedules.

"The board decided unanimously

not to open the season until there is a new collective bargaining agreement," he said Tuesday. "And that collective bargaining agreement has to address the issues and concerns that we are expressing."

"Frankly, it was the board's view that the proposal made yesterday was in fact a step backward. ... It's clear that the union is not interested in doing anything other than preserving the status quo."

Goodenow, who presented the players' plan on Monday, said the owners made an "unfortunate decision" in rejecting the offer. He predicted a fight like the one that has paralyzed baseball since players in that sport struck August 12.

Owners, who forced players to pay their own way to training camp, want to eliminate salary arbitration, cap rookie salaries and get what Goodenow called a "confiscatory tax system aimed to operate as a cap on salaries."

"We think we're fighting for the survival of the NHL," Philadelphia Flyers owner Ed Snider said. "We think we're going into a chaotic state worse than baseball because we have no big TV package. We do not have magical revenues. There's no magic here."

The lockout already has postponed 57 games and ruined hockey's chance to take advantage of the absence of Major League baseball.

First-ever national yachting championship starts tomorrow

JOEL GORDIN

THE first-ever Israel Yachting Championship will be held in the bay near the Tel Aviv Marina this weekend.

More than 50 yachts from all over the country will take part in three categories, explained Izzet Suissa, the tournament organizer of the Israel Yachting Association.

The boats are divided into categories according to their lengths which can vary from seven to 16 meters. There will be three laps in each category, the first tomorrow afternoon, the second on Saturday morning and the third Saturday afternoon.

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronnie Milo will have the honor of

starting the first race tomorrow.

Until now, Israel championships had been held only for the smaller Olympic-class vessels which have either one- or two-person crews. The privately-owned ships taking part over the weekend have crews of up to 10, which will include a virtual Who's Who of Israeli sailing, including Olympic contenders Eitan Friedlander, Eldad Amir, Shai Bachar and Ron Shental.

The captains of the yachts who win each category of the championship will be eligible to represent Israel in international events such as the prestigious America's Cup.

Major Leaguers can't play against Cuban nat'l team

SAN JUAN (AP) - Striking major leaguers will not be allowed to play Cuba's national team in a series that tentatively had been planned for later this month, union head Donald Fehr said yesterday.

Cuban baseball commissioner Domingo Zabala said last week he planned to bring Cuba's team, one of the world's baseball powerhouses, to the US for four games against teams from the Major League Baseball Players Association.

But Fehr said major leaguers needed the permission of team owners to play and the owners hadn't given the go-ahead. The players union won't push for approval because it has a bigger worry - negotiating an end to the strike.

Puerto Rico is Fehr's last stop in a series of nine regional meetings with players to update them on

strike issues, build solidarity and discourage players from breaking ranks if teams open spring training without a deal. He met Tuesday with players in the Dominican Republic.

Players struck August 12 as team owners threatened to impose a salary cap after the season. Owners canceled the season six weeks later.

Fehr said formal meetings with owners will resume next week.

In other news yesterday, Kevin Kennedy was fired as the Texas Rangers manager by new general manager Doug Melvin.

Melvin said he has also notified the teams coaches that they are free to talk to other clubs, indicating he would be interviewing others for their jobs.

"There will be a little bit of turnover," Melvin said. "It'll be a fresh start." Melvin took over as general manager earlier this week.

Aussies win despite Cronje

LAHORE (Reuters) - A valiant unbeaten 98 by Hansie Cronje was not enough to prevent South Africa losing by six runs to Australia in the opening match of a triangular one-day cricket tournament yesterday.

Replying to Australia's modest 207 for six, South Africa was 201 for eight at the end of its 50 overs.

Cronje, the South African vice-captain, came to the crease after the Australians had broken through early with the wicket of Gary Kirsten who fell in the fourth over to paceman Damien Fleming for four.

While Cronje kept his end intact, the wickets fell at regular intervals from the other end. The best part of the South African innings was the fourth-wicket stand of 76 runs in 94 balls between Cronje and Jonty Rhodes who made 42.

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HERZLIYA PITUAH

Court orders proponents of Shas deal to defend agreement

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave Labor, Shas, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair 14 days to explain why the proposed Labor-Shas coalition agreement should not be considered illegal.

The orders were issued by Justices Meir Shamgar, Aharon Barak, and Mishael Cheshin, following a six-hour hearing on Tuesday. Six petitions were filed against the agreement, by Tsomet, the Movement for Quality Government in Israel, Amal-Citizens for Good Government, Tel Aviv attorney Ze'ev Weiner, the Conservative and Reform movements, and a women's organization going by the Hebrew acronym ShIN.

The agreement states that any time the religious status quo is violated, legislation will be passed to rectify the situation. It also pro-

mises that the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom will be amended to enable the passage of such legislation.

While the court did not explain its reasons for issuing the orders, it was clear from the questions asked by the justices on Tuesday that their main problem was with paragraph 3 of the agreement, which states: "If the status quo in religious affairs is violated, the two sides promise to correct the violation by means of appropriate legislation."

Ben-Yair, in his response to the court, had said he considered this clause to be "inappropriate, and not to be acted on," because it made a blanket promise instead of reserving the government's right to examine each proposed piece of

legislation on its own merits.

Since the attorney-general's legal opinions are binding on the government, the justices asked how Rabin reconciles the agreement with Ben-Yair's objection?

The answer they received from Labor Party legal adviser Amnon Lorch - that Labor did not see the agreement as binding - apparently did not satisfy them. The formulation of the clause, they said, clearly seemed to be one of obligation.

The orders were also directed against Ben-Yair because of his failure to try to use his authority to stop the agreement. Instead, he told Rabin to go ahead and present it to the Knesset - before he had even read it.

No order was issued against Justice Minister David Liba'i, howev-

er, apparently since the court believed he had already done everything he could against the agreement.

The show-cause order merely means the justices want the issue examined in more depth. It does not say anything about what the final ruling will be.

This is particularly true because the justices also had serious problems with the petitioners' stand. By what right, they asked, could the court forbid two parties from deciding to pass any legislation they pleased?

In response to yesterday's decision, MKs Hagai Meron and Avraham Burg - two of the agreement's opponents within Labor - called on Rabin to renegotiate it. This would be better for the principles to which Labor is ostensibly committed, they said.

Yi'ud coalition bid passes first hurdle

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset yesterday passed in preliminary reading a bill which would allow Yi'ud to join the coalition by removing the ban against MKs from a breakaway faction being appointed ministers or deputy ministers.

The bill was approved 49-40 in a straight coalition-opposition split, even though many opposition MKs had previously said the law should be amended in this manner.

The bill, sponsored by Eli Dayan and Sallah Tarif (both Labor), was in response to a High Court of Justice ruling this summer prohibiting two Yi'ud MKs from being appointed minister and deputy minister. The ruling was based on a law which imposes numerous sanctions on MKs who leave their party. But while most of the sanctions say explicitly that they do not apply in the case of a party which splits in two, this disclaimer was not included in the clause banning the appointment of breakaway MKs as ministers or deputy ministers.

In a 3-2 decision, the court decided that this sanction applied to breakaway factions as well as individual MKs.

Dayan, who introduced the bill, rejected heckles from Likud MKs that this was a law to "circumvent the High Court."

"The sovereign power in Israel is the Knesset," he replied, noting that the court dealt only with interpreting the law as written, not with what the law should say.

"There was no argument as to what the intent of the legislature was," he added. "We clearly stated that a party which splits in two deserves all the rights given any other party in the Knesset... Either you recognize a faction [as a faction in all respects], or you don't."

Justice Minister David Liba'i agreed that the amendment was merely clarifying the Knesset's original

intent. While he personally had wanted sanctions for breakaway factions as well, his suggestion was defeated, he said.

The law was formulated as it was, he added, on the assumption that having once distinguished between breakaway MKs and parties that split, it would be clear that any sanction imposed on the former did not apply to the latter unless explicitly stated.

While he would prefer not to amend the law before seeing the court's reasons for its decision - which have not yet been published - there is no barrier to the Knesset amending a law at any time, Liba'i concluded.

Michael Eitan (Likud) spoke for the opponents of the amendment, saying it made a mockery of Labor's pre-election promises to introduce new norms of clean government - although, as one of the sponsors of the original law, he had bitterly attacked the court's ruling when it first came out, saying it was the exact opposite of what the legislators had intended. Tariff pointed this out in his response to Eitan.

Eitan began by saying that when Shimon Peres was prime minister, he once tried to bribe a party into the coalition by offering ministerships.

"But today we have new norms," he said. "For three MKs, they are offering only a ministership and a deputy ministership. Today, the price is lower."

How, he asked, can Meretz and those Labor members who oppose the Labor-Shas coalition agreement because of its promise to reverse High Court rulings with legislation vote in favor of doing the same thing here?

"[The Knesset] has the authority," he said. "But we aren't talking about legislation here. All the people who came here today... they didn't come to defend the Knesset [against the High Court]. They came to defend... an act of buying power."

3.6% fewer jobseekers during September

Jerusalem Post Staff

DURING the month of September, 91,900 unemployed applied for jobs at Employment Service offices, which after seasonal adjustment for the holidays reflects a drop of 3.6%.

In other findings released yesterday by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs:

• Following medical testing of some 7,500 applicants for welfare payments during the months of July and August, the Employment Service found that 4,331 of them did not qualify for payments.

• The number of unemployed academics remained unchanged at 15,100.

• Unemployed women constituted 58% of all jobseekers in September, up from 56.4% the previous month.

• Last month 15% of job applicants were newly unemployed.

• Unskilled workers made up 64.7% of jobseekers last month. Among professionals, 44.5% were in the sciences and academic professions, 13.9% were self-employed, 0.6% were managers, 17.2% were clerks, 1.5% were salespeople, 4.1% were in services, 0.45% were in agriculture, and 17.3% were skilled workers in industry and transportation.

• Geographically, unemployment was worst in the Negev. Nine localities were labeled as so-called "unemployment pockets" in six of which unemployment was higher than 10%: Sderot (15.8%); Shlomi (13.9%); Mitze Ramon (13.1%); Or Akiva (12.7%); Ofakim (11.4%); Kiryat Gat (10.7%); Yeroham (9.6%); Kefar Saba (9.6%); and Ma'lot Tardilha (9.6%).



Development town heads protest outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

(Nissan Shorer)

Development town heads threaten sit-in outside PM's Office if demands not met

JOSE ROSENFELD

DEVELOPMENT town officials yesterday threatened to camp outside the Prime Minister's Office until the government lives up to its obligations to meet their financial needs.

Development Town Forum chairman Gabi Lalouah and Union of Local Authorities chairman Adi Eldar accused the government of reneging on agreements signed only four months ago. They also presented a set of demands including the immediate transfer of mon-

ey to the towns, without which all development town activities will come to a halt.

The officials are requesting that the funding basis for local government be changed to the conform to the recommendations of the state-appointed Swary Committee, which base each locality's budget on the size of its population and its socio-economic conditions. They also want the government to write-

off their debt, as it is doing with the kibbutzim; eliminate external controllers; do away with the requirement for towns to match government funding; double development budgets; and cover all expenses for education, welfare, and immigrant absorption.

The Treasury rejected the accusations saying that the government has fully met its obligations under the agreements signed with the lo-

calities, leaving no room for new demands from development town heads. The Treasury has already transferred the additional NIS 300 million promised to the localities this year and another NIS 225m. to cover their budget deficits.

The Treasury also reported that it will compensate localities for higher expenses that derive from the new public sector wage agreements. The funds will be included in the additional budget the Treasury will send to the Knesset.

Beersheba municipal workers strike over unpaid wages

AMIR ROZENBLIT

SOME 1,700 Beersheba municipal workers walked off the job yesterday afternoon after they failed to receive the second half of their September salary.

The city is in a severe financial crisis - its budget deficit is some NIS 500,000 - and the workers have not been paid on time for the past several months. They received half of September's pay last Friday, and at a City Hall meeting on Monday, Mayor Yitzhak Rager promised the second half would be paid on Tuesday.

When it became clear yesterday that Rager had not kept his word and the pay was not forthcoming, the workers struck.

"We will stay out until we get

paid," said union vice chairman Hania Kedoshim.

The workers also charged the municipality with violating the law by not paying into their pension, savings, and study funds in the proper manner, saying the city was using this money to help cover its deficit.

"I'm surprised the municipal workers waited a whole year before taking action," said Yossi Bananu, the head of the Bezek union in the South. "They haven't been getting their pay on time for a year. When a factory can't pay its workers, it's obvious it will be shut down. When a city can't pay its workers, the administration of the city should be handed over to the Interior Ministry."

Blood test acquits woman suspected of dumping baby

RAINE MARCUS

A WOMAN arrested and remanded on suspicion she had disposed of her newborn baby in the garbage was released yesterday after a blood test proved her innocence.

The woman, 29, was arrested Monday night after an anonymous caller told police his neighbor had been pregnant, but there were no signs of a baby.

Police did not believe the woman's statement that she had not been pregnant for five years and arrested her. Yesterday morning she was remanded for 10 days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court, based on evidence presented by police.

She continued to deny all allegations against her.

"I am already bringing up three kids," she told the court. "So why should I want to get rid of a fourth one?"

Judge Nira Lidsky then ordered her to undergo a medical examination. By the afternoon, a blood test had proved she had not been pregnant in recent weeks and she was released immediately.

The body of the two-day-old baby was found on the Hiriya garbage dump 10 days ago by workers in the area.

Police renewed their appeal to the public for assistance in finding the mother. Anyone with information should phone Dan police at (03)7544438 or 7544444.

Father admits killing son

BILL HUTMAN

A JERUSALEM man has confessed to setting his two-year-old son on fire and killing him last month because he believed he had not fathered the boy, police said.

He told investigator that while his wife and two other children were out of the house, he poured petrol over the two-year-old and then ignited the boy.

He said he did not want the boy because he believed he was born of an affair between his wife and another man.

The murder occurred at the family's home in the Beit Hanina neighborhood of north Jerusalem. The father called the police to report his son's death, at first telling investigators he returned home to find his son killed.

Last week, however, he was again detained, and during interrogation admitted to the murder, according to police.

Yesterday, he re-enacted the murder before investigators.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Buzzards find Lebanese skies unsafe

Ten wounded honey buzzards have been brought to the Hula Nature Reserve for treatment in the last week, a Nature Reserves Authority spokeswoman said yesterday. Five later died of their injuries and the rest have been transferred to the Ramat Gan Safari. None of them seem likely to be able to fly again.

The buzzards were found by residents of various settlements along the Lebanese border.

According to Yossi Va'adia, the Hula reserve director, the Lebanese habitually shoot at the birds migrating from Europe to Africa for the winter. A number of birds, like pelicans and storks, have learned to fly higher above Lebanon and only drop their height when they reach Israel, apparently realizing they are entering an area with a nature protection policy, Va'adia said.

The buzzards haven't yet learned the lesson, he added.

Police for Haiti still in Puerto Rico

The Israeli police delegation is still training at an American military base in Puerto Rico, the police spokesman said yesterday. The officers are learning procedures for reporting violations of the law and of human rights, one of the areas with which they will deal upon their arrival in Haiti. The officers have also been briefed on the regulations for opening fire in Haiti. It was emphasized that their mission is to serve only as observers, and not to take part in operational police activity. Accordingly, they will be permitted to use their weapons for self-defense purposes only, in case of need.

At present, no date has been determined for the delegation's actual entry into Haiti, although it appears unlikely to take place before the start of next week.

Jerusalem mufti buried

Hundreds of Jerusalem residents accompanied the body of the city's mufti, Sheikh Suleiman Jabari to his final resting place in the Muslim cemetery next to the Lion's Gate yesterday. Jabari, 80, had died Tuesday evening in Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, of kidney failure.

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